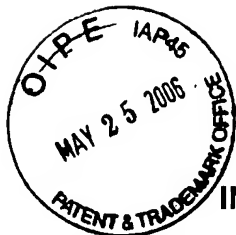


JPW



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 3180.0357

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
HIROSHI MATSUSHITA ET AL.)	Group Art Unit: 2184
)	
Application No.: 10/801,992)	Examiner: Unknown
)	
Filed: March 17, 2004)	Confirmation No.: 3342
)	
For: METHOD FOR ANALYZING FAIL)	
BIT MAPS OF WAFERS AND)	
APPARATUS THEREFOR)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed foreign and non-patent literature documents are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English documents, a Notification of Reason for Refusal issued by the Japanese Patent Office, dispatched May 9, 2006, in a counterpart Japanese application citing the document and setting

forth the relevance thereof is enclosed. An English-language translation of the Notification is enclosed. In addition, an English-language abstract of the Japanese publication is attached.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: _____

5/25/06

By: _____

Richard V. Bulgujian
Reg. No. 31,744

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

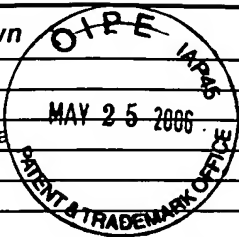
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of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/801,992
Filing Date	March 17, 2004
First Named Inventor	Hiroshi Matsushita
Art Unit	2184
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	3180.0357

**U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2002-269109	9/20/02	Hitachi Ltd.		Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		Notification of Reason for Refusal issued by the Japanese Patent Office, dispatched on May 9, 2006, for Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-076411, and English-language translation thereof	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.